



# Natick Soldier Center (NSC)

## Overview:

Since 1954, the Natick Soldier Center (NSC), also known as the Natick Labs, has followed a simple mandate: to ensure that American Soldiers are the best fed, the best protected, and the most highly mobile military in the world.

NSC's world-class scientists, engineers, and equipment designers provide American forces with a wide range of field feeding and life support systems, clothing, precision airdrop systems, and ballistic, chemical, and laser protection systems. NSC's technical and scientific expertise, combined with its close relationship to Soldiers in the field, has led to the creation of new fabrics that are lighter weight, more durable, and more threat resistant than anything Soldiers have ever worn. Food research has led to a new understanding of how to maximize a Soldier's performance by developing rations that contain just the right mix of nutrients, are easy to prepare in remote locations, and, most importantly, taste good. Thanks to NSC, state-of-the-art shelters that enhance Soldier protection, as well as quality of life, have replaced the flimsy tents of yesteryear. Moreover, research into airdrop and other airdrop technologies has matured to ensure that personnel and equipment reach their destination in the fastest, precise, yet safest, way possible.

Throughout the years, NSC has reached out to a broader community through technology transfer and cooperative agreements with private industry and other government agencies. Through such efforts, NSC developed much of the food eaten by astronauts aboard the space shuttles, outfitted police forces with special ballistic protection, and developed shelf-stable sandwich foods that promise to combine convenience and nutrition for a consumer market.

In addition to supporting the Soldier in field, NSC's mission has grown to encompass disaster response, humanitarian aid, peacekeeping efforts, and low intensity conflicts. NSC's multitalented, highly educated, and experienced workforce stands poised to continue to meet these challenges and any that the future may bring.

## Point Of Contact:

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